



#8
41905
A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hirota CHIBA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2624**

Serial No.: **09/351,235**

RECEIVED

Examiner: **Jerome Grant II**

Filed: **July 9, 1999**

APR 17 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **9455**

For: **IMAGE READER**

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED March 21, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: **April 16, 2003**

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated March 21, 2003.

In the Action, restriction is required among **Group (I)**: Claims 1-28 and 93-105, drawn to detecting a position of an original medium and reading it; **Group (II)**: Claims 29-52, drawn to reading a document based on the detected position of a platen cover; **Group (III)**: Claims 53-79, drawn to reading a document based upon the detection of the position of the platen as well as the position of the original medium; **Group (IV)**: Claim 80, drawn to detecting a position between a reading unit and the original medium and detecting a medium before reading operation is performed; **Group (V)**: Claims 81-88, drawn to determining pre-reading conditions before an original medium is read; or **Group (VI)**: Claims 89-92, drawn to reading a plurality of images.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of **Group (I), Claims 1-28 and 93-105** for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

By: Hirotaka CHIBA et al.

Serial No. 09/351,235

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

William F. Westerman
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 29,988

WFW/meu
Atty. Docket No. **990773**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE